

---

---

# A VIEW FROM FEW

AN ORGANIZATION FOR OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN  
GOVERNMENT

Space Coast Chapter, Kennedy Space Center, FL

October 2000

---

---

## SPACE COAST CHAPTER, FEW

2000 - 2001

### Officers and Committees

<b>President</b>	<b>Aneta Ott</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Clara Anderson</b>
<b>Public Relations</b>	<b>Jean Grenville</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Vickie Hall/Rutha Williams</b>
<b>NTP/RTP Planners</b>	<b>Connie Dobrin/Barb Powell</b>
<b>Nominations</b>	<b>Arden Belt</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Debbie Ward</b>
<b>Presidents Task Force</b>	<b>Vickie Hall</b>
<b>President Elect</b>	<b>Connie Dobrin</b>
<b>Seminar</b>	<b>Becky Fasulo</b>
<b>Compliance/Diversity</b>	<b>Sue Gaines</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Barb Powell</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>Jean Grenville</b>
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	<b>Carolyn Burnham</b>
<b>Community Outreach</b>	<b>Dawn Partlow</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Christy Vanasse</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Patricia Leonard</b>
<b>Sunshine</b>	<b>Suzanne Worland</b>
<b>Environmental</b>	<b>Valarie Franklin</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jane Eitel</b>
<b>Scholarships</b>	<b>Christy Vanasse</b>
<b>Legislation</b>	<b>Connie Dobrin</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Carolyn Burnham</b>
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Vickie Hall</b>
<b>National Legal Chairperson</b>	<b>Karin Biega</b>
<b>Regional Awards</b>	<b>Becky Fasulo</b>
<b>Regional Nominations &amp; Elections</b>	<b>Jane Eitel</b>
<b>Regional Legislative Chairperson</b>	<b>Vickie Hall</b>
<b>NTP 2002 Acting Chairperson</b>	<b>Clara Anderson</b>

40ish should get mammograms. She gave out lots of handouts.

For our October Meeting at the Olive Garden, Jean has arranged for Barbara Jargowski, who is with the League of Women Voters, to present information on the referendums for the parks in the county. Most of us really do not have all the information on this referendum and this information will better prepare us when we go to the polls.

Becky Fasulo has reported that all is going well with the Seminar. The committee met on September 21st and things are proceeding very smoothly. Just a reminder, our Seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn, in Cocoa Beach on March 7 & 8, 2001. We will be partnering with the Federal Women's Program Working Group on this Seminar for Women's History Month.

Dawn Partlow our Community Outreach Chair has looked into the possibility of our participation for "Make a Difference Day," with the Salvation Army's Domestic Violence Program "Hands Are Not For Hurting". She was told that the project at the mall had enough volunteers. So she is going to look into the possibility of us doing it at Wal-Mart.

Had a wonderful response from many of you for "Baxley Manor". As usual they were very glad to see me. It always makes me feel like we have done a very good deed. The sad news was that I found out that they have been playing Bingo on Wednesdays for can goods that have been supplied to them from Brevard's Sharing Center. This last week was the last time that will happen. The Sharing Center is also having a hard time gathering food for all the people who need it.

Thanks to Valarie Franklin, her grandsons, Barb Powell and son, Christy Vanasse, Becky Fasulo and Jane Eitel for supporting the Cocoa Beach Coastal Cleanup on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Sheppard Park. Good job Val for getting this team together.

There are many activities coming up, so please make note of the dates and times. Have a wonderful month.

*Aneta*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



For those of you that missed our September Meeting at Kelsey's our speaker was Linda Beller, from the American Cancer Society, she spoke on Women's' Breast Health Care. She is a cancer survivor and pointed out many ways for us to examine ourselves as well as stressing that all women over

**Calendar of Events**

- Oct 2 CFC Campaign Kicks Off at KSC
- Oct 3 National Disability Employment Awareness Program 9 am, Universe Theater, KSC Visitor's Complex
- Oct 5 STS-92 Launch, 9:38 pm (100<sup>th</sup> Shuttle Launch)
- Oct 9 Columbus Day
- Oct 16 STS-92 Landing, 4:50 pm
- Oct 18 Super Health & Safety Day at KSC
- Oct 23 FEW Meeting, 5 pm, Olive Garden

**Smile of the Day**

*Calories don't count when you are having lunch (or any other food) with your girlfriends. Especially when it involves the words "chocolate" or "doritos"*

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

**Jean Grenville**

October's meeting will be held on **Monday, October 23** at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Merritt Island. Barbara Jargowski, League of Women Voters, will present information on referendums for the parks in the county. Each park district is going to be voted on separately (Titusville, Cocoa, Melbourne, etc). There are also three charter amendments on the ballot she will brief us on plus she will check on anything else that might be of interest to us. Mark your calendars for this important meeting. The business meeting will be conducted following the speaker.

November's meeting will be a presentation on Diversity. Plans are to contact a local speaker in Melbourne (contact from NTP 2000) to see if he would come talk to us. We may want him to be a speaker at 2002 NTP. Information will be forwarded as soon as plans are firmed up.

**SUNSHINE**  
**Suzanne Worland**



- Patricia Leonard      **October 2**
- Sandra Gates        **October 7**
- Carole McCline      **October 28**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YA!!**

Condolences to Becky and Lenny Fasulo in the loss of Lenny's Father.

Also if you are not listed on the Birthday list, it's because we do not have your birthday in our books, please send an e-mail to Suzanne Worland with the day so that we do not leave you out. [Suzanne.Worland-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Suzanne.Worland-1@ksc.nasa.gov)

**WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN 2000**  
**Clara Anderson**

The FEW Website has a link to the "World March of Women 2000," where you can symbolically join hands with women around the world in a campaign to end Poverty and violence against women. On October 15, you can join hands for real in Washington, DC as more than 3000 women's groups in 146 countries rally and march for women's rights.

The link has a post card and petition that you can e-mail to His Excellency Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations. The petition states "We unite with women around the world to demand that leaders of the United States, the United Nations and its member States, and other institutions of power work to:

- Eliminate poverty and ensure a fair distribution of the planet's wealth between rich and poor, and between men and women;
- Eliminate violence against women; and
- Ensure equality between women and men."

Take a few minutes from your day, and e-mail your support for the World march of Women 2000.

**LEGISLATION**  
**Connie Dobrin**



**WHITE HOUSE SAYS NO TO RUMORS OF GOVT SHUTDOWN**

At a White House press conference last week, Chief of Staff John Podesta made it clear that the administration will support passage of continuing resolutions in the event the Congress fails to report out the backlog of agency appropriations bills within the next few weeks. Eleven of thirteen federal agency spending bills continue to languish in pre-conference committee status, and, with elections approaching, the rumors of agency shutdowns have begun to surface. As is often the case during the quadrennial run for the White House, shutdown talk is often laced with stories of political partisanship and congressional processes designed to pressure the White House into

signing otherwise unacceptable legislation. The White House seems not to be biting on that outcome this year, preferring to wait the House and Senate leadership out by keeping government open well past the beginning of the new fiscal year, which starts October 1. I think we've been clear, said Sylvia Matthews, OMB's director, responding to a reporters question at the briefing. We will sign short-term CRs as long as it takes to get the job done.

#### **POSTAL SERVICE AND FEDEX TALK JOINT OPERATIONS**

An informal conversation between Postmaster General William Henderson and Federal Express chairman Fred Smith earlier this year may lead to a partnership that could help USPS reduce the impact of its first red-ink budget in five years. The proposed partnership would give USPS the task of picking up and delivering FedEx residential packages, while FedEx would be responsible for collecting the parcels at the post offices and transporting them. FedEx would pay USPS for the pickup and delivery costs, and the Post Office would also benefit by having access to FedEx fleet of aircraft, which would augment USPS's smaller fleet. The Postal Service is looking at a \$300 million loss for this fiscal year, and a FedEx deal would, according to the Postmaster, improve USPS income, while affording FedEx a less expensive residential package delivery option. The USPS governing board is expected to hear the proposal next month.

#### **Paid Parental Leave a Possibility**

When it returns to work this week, one issue facing Congress will be whether to order a study that could lead to paid parental leave for federal employees, who already are eligible for up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. The House already has approved language in its version of the treasury-postal appropriations bill (HR-4871) ordering the Office of Personnel Management to study ways to provide employees with at least six weeks of paid leave in connection with the birth or adoption of a child. The report would have to examine projected utilization rates, whether the benefit could be expected to improve recruiting and retention, and how well such a benefit would contribute to parental involvement during a child's formative years.

#### **Health Insurance Hike May Be Even Higher**

Although it has been widely reported that the average premium increase for Federal Employees Health Benefit plans will be about 8.7 percent, informed sources guardedly are predicting that it will be higher, in the double digits - perhaps in the 10 to 11 percent range. The actual figure will be known soon. The new rates (as well as that widely-anticipated average) are expected to be announced within a few weeks. The average figure is just that, an average. Some plans will announce higher premiums and some lower.

#### **2000 Campaigns: Quick Guide to Political Activity Rules**

With the campaign season about to kick into high gear, many federal and postal employees will be involved in some capacity. Political activity rules applying to them under the Hatch Act were loosened in 1993, but certain restrictions still are on the books, and the career consequences of violating them can be severe. In addition, employees of certain agencies face even tighter restrictions. For a look at what is and isn't permissible, go to <http://www.fedweek.com> and click the "Hot Free Info" button on the home page.

#### **What Motivates Employees:**

First, Pride The Merit Systems Protection Board says that in preliminary results from its recent "merit principles" survey of some 7,000 federal workers, the greatest factor motivating them to do a good job is pride-half of respondents said that a personal desire to make a contribution motivates them and a quarter said mentioned their sense of duty as public servants. While compensation often is viewed as a top motivator, only about a quarter of respondents mentioned that among their top three motivators.

#### **Views on Discrimination Still Wide Apart**

In addition, MSPB says its data show that there remains a wide difference in perception regarding whether minority employees are subjected to flagrant or obviously discriminatory practices that hamper their advancement in the workplace. Fifty-four percent of black employees but only 3 percent of white employees said such discrimination exists. That difference is about the same as in a 1993 MSPB study.

**AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN GOVERNMENT INCREASING**

In a recent speech to the Blacks in Government National Conference, Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Director Janice Lachance applauded the increases in African American representation in the Federal government, but says that there is still room for improvement. She called on African American leaders to be proactive in helping to make the Federal workforce better reflect the American population by "mentoring promising employees for leadership positions, encouraging your agency or organization to sponsor a touch screen kiosk at a historically Black college or university." In 1993, only 7.2 percent of the Federal employees at GS 13-15 levels were African American. By 1999, that number was up to almost 10 percent. Lachance noted that in OPM, there 20 percent of employees at the GS 13-15 levels are African American.

**Still Waiting on LTC Bill Signing**

Although there's no question that President Clinton will sign recently passed legislation (HR-4040) creating a long-term care benefit for federal and postal employees, retirees and immediate family members, he hasn't done so yet. That bill also creates a mechanism for correcting the problem of enrollments in the wrong retirement systems. Also awaiting signature is another approved bill (HR-208) allowing newly hired employees to begin investing in the Thrift Savings Plan immediately and allowing transfers into the TSP of money in 401(k) plans.

**Numbers, Salaries Lower for Women**

Women make up about 43 percent of the federal work force compared with more than 46 percent of the overall American work force and their average general schedule grade is 8.4 compared with an average of 10.4 for men, says the Office of Personnel Management. That translates into an average salary of \$39,593 versus \$49,114 for men. Also, women exceed the overall American average representation level in only six of the top 15 federal growing occupations but exceed it in eight of the top 15 declining occupations. The gender disparity between the federal work force and the overall work force has held about steady over the last 10 years. One Exception, black women: They make up 10.5 percent of the

federal work force versus 5.8 percent of the overall work force.

**Behind the Differences**

One factor contributing to the relatively low overall representation rate (see above item) is that only 4.4 percent of federally employed women have veterans status and 6.1 percent are disabled, compared with 41.2 and 8 percent of men, respectively. That means women are less likely to be eligible for special hiring preferences for veterans and the disabled. Regarding the pay disparity, 14.1 percent of men have supervisory status versus only 7 percent of women, and 46 percent of men have bachelor's degrees or higher versus 32 percent of women.

~~~~~  
**COFFEE IN BED**

A sweet little boy surprised his grandmother one morning and brought her a cup of coffee. He made it himself and was so proud. He anxiously waited to hear the verdict on the quality of the coffee. The grandmother had never in her life had such a bad cup of coffee, and as she forced down the last sip she noticed three of those little green army guys in the bottom of the cup.

She asked "Honey why would three little green army guys be in the bottom of my cup?"

Her grandson replied, "You know grandma, it's like on TV..."The best part of waking up is soldiers in your cup.

~~~~~  
**EVERY WOMAN**

Article submitted by Val Sasser,  
Pensacola Chapter

**EVERY WOMAN SHOULD HAVE...**

...one old love she can imagine going back to...and one who reminds her how far she has come...

...Enough money to move out and rent a place her own even if she never wants and needs to...

...something perfect to wear if the employer or date of her dreams wants to see her in an hour...

...a youth she's content to leave behind.....a past juicy enough that she's looking forward to retelling it in her old age...

...the realization that she is actually going to have an old age and some money set aside to fund it...

...a set of screwdrivers, a cordless drill, and a black lace bra...

...one friend who always makes her laugh... and one who lets her cry...

...a good piece of furniture not previously owned by anyone else in her family...

...eight matching plates, wine glasses with stems, and a recipe for a meal that will make her guests feel honored...

...a resume that is not even slightest bit padded...

...a feeling of control over her destiny...

EVERY WOMAN SHOULD KNOW...

...how to fall in love without losing herself...

...how to quit a job, break up with a lover, and confront a friend without ruining the friendship...

...when to try harder... and when to walk away...

...how to have a good time at a party she'd never choose to attend...

...how to ask for what she wants in a way that makes it most likely she'll get it...

...that she can't change the length of her calves, the width of her hips, or the nature of her parents...

...that her childhood may not have been perfect... but its over...

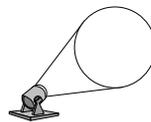
...what she would and wouldn't do for love or more...

...how to live alone... even if she doesn't like it...

...whom she can trust, whom she can't, and why she shouldn't take it personally...

...where to go... be it to her best friend's kitchen table... or a charming inn in the woods...when her soul needs soothing...

...what she can and can't accomplish in a day... a month... and a year...



## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

**Diana F. Akins**

Has been a member of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW for five years. Although she was born in Denver Colorado, her quest for education started at the New Mexico State University, at Las Cruces, NM. In 1976, Diana graduated with dual degree, a BS in Computer Science, and a BA in History. She completed her Master Program in Library Science at the University of Denver, in Denver, CO in 1977. Her professional career began in Khamis Musyhat, Saudi Arabia in November 1977, as a Medical Librarian/Director at a Saudi Army Military Hospital. From there she became the Library Director at the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Hamilton, Bermuda. After being out of the U.S. for so long, her next position was at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas. Today Diana is employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center at Bay Pines, FL, as the Chief of Library Service. Her position entails the responsibility for the Medical Library and the Patient Education Resource Center. In addition to the endless supply of Christmas stockings she makes for her nieces and nephews each year, Diana's family includes her three cats (2 Siamese and 1 Siamese mix) plus a Brussels Griffon dog known as the "Griffinator". Her future aspiration: "survive the federal system."

## **SPACE COAST CHAPTER WEBSITE**

**Debbie Ward**

Don't forget to visit our FEW website at

<http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/groups/few/>

We are also linked from the FEW National website to our Chapter.

If you have additional info for the website please contact me at 867-0832 or e-mail at

[Deborah.Ward-1@kmail.ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Deborah.Ward-1@kmail.ksc.nasa.gov)

**HEALTH CORNER**  
**Submitted by Vickie Hall**

## Clover

Wild clover actually contains a natural broad-spectrum antibiotic. Clover tea can easily be used to keep allergic sinusitis from becoming a sinus infection and to prevent a chest cold from becoming bronchitis. Prevention is always a gentler cure.

- Victoria Snelling  
taken from amazing Health Tips website

**Space Coast Chapter  
Newsletter Editor  
Rutha Williams**



This monthly publication is a means of sharing information and ideas, please send news articles or items of interest for this Newsletter to Rutha Williams at OA-D or e-mail [Rutha.Williams-1@kmail.ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Rutha.Williams-1@kmail.ksc.nasa.gov)

Please feel free to share this Newsletter with your friends. And for anyone interested, a Membership Application is attached as the last page.

**FEDERALLY EMPLOYED WOMEN, INC.  
SPACE COAST CHAPTER  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

This form may also be used to notify the Membership Chairperson of any changes you have in personal data. Include name and corrected data only.

New Applicant  Notice of Change

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Committees you would like to work on or Chair:**

Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Bylaws \_\_\_\_\_ Seminar \_\_\_\_\_ Programs \_\_\_\_\_  
Community Outreach \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarships \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunshine \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental \_\_\_\_\_ Historian \_\_\_\_\_

Officer positions you would be interested in serving:  
President \_\_\_\_\_ President Elect \_\_\_\_\_ Vice President \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

**Other areas of interest or things you would like Space Coast Chapter to address or provide a program covering a specific topic:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following information is requested by the National Office for statistics only.

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One:    SES    GM    GS    WG    Military    Other

Since dues are paid on a pro-rated basis, please contact the Membership Chairperson, Patricia Leonard, 867-8147, for payment amount and address.